

Choctaw College Connect Breakout Sessions 2017

Letha Huddleston

“Paying for College”

Do you want to go to college? Are you wondering how you will pay for it? This informative session will lead you through the financial aid process and discuss the various forms of aid that are available to help students pay for education beyond high school, with a special emphasis on scholarships.

Troy Milligan

“FERPA and the Freshman Experience”

FERPA helps you access and protect your educational information, while the Freshman Experience helps you make the most of your time as a first-time college student. Come to this session to better understand your educational information rights and learn how to enjoy a wealth of experiences during your collegiate career.

Royce Liston

“Scholarship Do’s and Don’ts”

Description: One of the first Adult decisions a newly graduated high school student makes is the decisions to go to college. College can steer a young adult to their career and a life of stability. College can also be the first source of debt and long term loan payments. Is it possible to graduate debt free? Scholarships can be the answer. Join us as we learn how to look for scholarships, apply for scholarships and how to maintain scholarships.

Les Riding-In, Ph. D.

“Get Involved and Get Paid: How to be the NEXT Successful College Native Student”

Joining a Native Student Organization is probably one of the most impactful decisions you will make when attending college. For many students, Native organizations lead to scholarships and other significant distinguishing activities such as mentorship, internships and undergraduate research. Join Dr. Les Riding-In (Pawnee/Osage), advisor for the UT-Arlington Native Student Organization, and Ms. Kristy Willis (Choctaw), and president of the UT-Arlington Native Student Organization, for a discussion about how to make most of Native Student Organizations.

Dr. Les D. Riding In (Pawnee/Osage) is the Assistant Dean and Director of Graduate Studies for the College of Liberal Arts at UT-Arlington and is the lead advisor for the UT-Arlington’s Native American Student Association (NASA). His experiences in higher education range from Graduate enrollment management, University Housing to Honors education. Dr. Riding-In also serves as a Trustee (Co-Chair) for Pawnee Nation College.

Steve McLaughlin

“Telling Your Story – the Connecting Piece In Your College Application Puzzle”

The college application essay might feel daunting and agonizing to a student. Yet your essays are the favorite part of an application for Steve McLaughlin, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Admissions at Duke University. Steve has worked in admissions for 16 years and read close to 10,000 college essays. In addition each summer, Steve works with College Horizons and the Cherokee Foundation coaching Native high school students as they develop their college essays.

Dinée Dorame

“Walking in Two Worlds: Indigenous Students Navigating Freshman Year”

This breakout session will be led by Dinée Dorame, Assistant Director at Yale Undergraduate Admissions and Yale College graduate. Discussion will focus around transitioning to college, utilizing campus resources, selecting first year courses, and finding community within an institution.